

DRAFT GUIDELINES ON THE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF IDENTIFICATION SYSTEMS TO ACHIEVE ANIMAL TRACEABILITY

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE *ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM*

1. ...

- h) Abattoirs, rendering plants, dead stock collection points, markets, assembly centres

Abattoirs, rendering plants, dead stock collection points, *markets* and assembly centres should document arrangements for the maintenance of *animal identification* and *animal traceability* in compliance with the legal framework.

These *establishments* are critical points for control of animal health and food safety.

Animal *or group/lot* *identification* should be recorded on documents accompanying samples collected for analysis.

The components of the *animal* *or group/lot* *identification system* operating within *abattoirs* should complement and be compatible with arrangements for tracking animal products throughout the food chain. At an *abattoir*, *animal identification* should be maintained during the processing of the animal's carcass until the carcass is deemed fit for human consumption.

The *animal* *or group/lot* *identification* and the *establishment* from which the animal was dispatched should be registered by the *abattoir*, rendering plant and dead stock collection points.

Rationale: For many animal production industries (in particular the swine and poultry industries, and even the beef feeding industry) individual identification is logistically difficult and would be inefficient. However, identifying groups or lots is both feasible and practical where group integrity can be maintained. Group identification is consistent with Item 5.b.iv under Key Elements of the Identification System in this draft document.

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